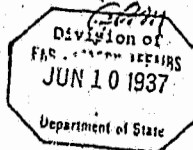


F820004-1817

NO. 1550

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,
Berlin, Germany, May 21, 1937.



*File
answered
6-5-37*

SUBJECT: Efforts of Hermann Frederick Erben, M.D., to
Obtain Permission Enabling him to Enter Spain.

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF STATE
JUN 2 1937

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

I have the honor to refer to the Department's instructions of April 10, 1936 (File No. 150- Erben, Hermann Frederick), and to make a report regarding the latest activities of Dr. Erben.

On March 9, 1937, Dr. Erben called at this Consulate General to make inquiries concerning registration and about making application for immigration visas for his sons now residing in Berlin. In the course of his conversation he stated that he had but recently arrived from the United States and that he intended going to Spain where he was to make photographs and write accounts of the Spanish war for American journals. His passport (No. 248504 issued by the Department of State on December 7, 1935) bore the endorsement "not valid for travel in Spain", a stamp which had apparently been inserted at the time his passport had been extended at San Francisco on February 20, 1937. Dr. Erben stated that he was desirous of having his passport amended to allow him to

use

130- ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

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- 2 -

use it in going to Spain. When he was informed that such amendment could be made only upon the authorization of the Department, Dr. Erben said that he would see what could be done in Paris about the matter.

On May 18, 1937, Dr. Erben called again at this office asking permission to read Section 221 of Title 22 U. S. Code saying that he was interested in the penalties he may have incurred by journeying to Spain. After reading the section mentioned, Dr. Erben declared that he did not consider that it applied to him inasmuch as he did not use his American passport to enter or leave Spain. An examination of the passport confirmed his declaration. The only indication that he had been in Spain were two visas issued by the Austrian and French Consulates in Barcelona. The latter was stamped May 7, 1937.

Dr. Erben declared that he had called at the American Consulate General in Barcelona and had filed a request that his passport be amended to permit him to travel in Spain but that the Department had refused to authorize such amendment when the request had been submitted by the Consulate at Barcelona. It is believed that Dr. Erben filed a second request at Paris submitting additional evidence of his bona fides as a journalist, doctor, or photographer, and asking that the reply be forwarded to Berlin. His temporary address in Berlin is care of Leuckert, 47 Nassauische Strasse.

Respectfully yours,

031508

George S. Messersmith
George S. Messersmith
Consul General

130
MCP-ST.

F820004-1819

NO. 1626

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,

Berlin, Germany, July 7, 1937.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Immigration Cases of Sons of Hermann
Frederick Erben

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Department's confidential instruction of June 7, 1937 (File No. 130 - Erben, Hermann Frederick) with which was enclosed a copy of an instruction to the Consul General at Paris dated June 1, 1937 regarding the case of Hermann Frederick Erben. The Department desired to know what Dr. Erben said regarding his two sons when making application for them for immigration visas at this office.

The records of the Consulate General do not indicate that Dr. Erben's sons ever applied to this office for immigration visas. About March 15, 1935, one Claire Erben, said to be his wife, registered at this office and asked to be placed upon the waiting list but never consummated her application.

On

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130- ERBEN, HERMAN FREDERICK

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On March 23, 1936, Dr. Erben personally requested information regarding visas for his two boys, German citizens, and was given details as to the procedure. The notes taken that day state that Dr. Erben had no American passport but was traveling on an affidavit.

One Santos Erben appeared with his father, Hermann F. Erben, bearer of passport No. 248504, valid until December 7, 1937, on March 13, 1937. The notes made that day merely indicate that Dr. Erben was given information as to filing a Petition for the Issuance of an Immigration Visa (Form 633) and furnishing evidence of support.

Respectfully yours,

Douglas Jenkins
Douglas Jenkins
American Consul General

Carbon Copy
Received

811.11

JCH-HG

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F820 004-1821

NO. 1811.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,
VIENNA, AUSTRIA. JANUARY 8, 1936.

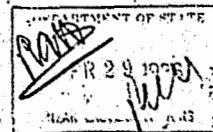
SUBJECT: THE CASE OF HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN.

RECEIVED
THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
SIR:

10 51

1936 JAN 9 61

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON.



JAN 23 PM 1 03

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

130 - ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

I have the honor to refer to the Department's instruction of November 16, 1935, (File No. 130 - Erben, Hermann Frederick), and to previous correspondence respecting the case of Hermann Frederick Erben, and to respectfully inform the Department that Dr. Erben called at the Consulate General yesterday afternoon and presented Departmental passport No. 248564, issued on December 7, 1935, and restricted to expire on March 7, 1936.

Dr. Erben stated that he had debarked at Havre on December 22, 1935, and proceeded directly to Vienna. A few days after his arrival he was arrested by the Vienna police who searched his belongings and seized a small quantity of codein and opium. Dr. Erben, who has grown a long beard since his departure from Vienna last spring, maintains that he was carrying the codein for a throat trouble from which he suffers and the opium for use in treating

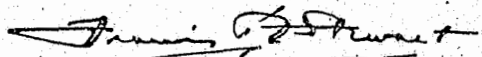
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treating diarrhoea which attacks him occasionally. He was released after a short time upon payment of a fine of 20 schillings.

Dr. Erben acknowledged that he had knowingly misled the Consulate General into giving him the letter referred to in the Department's instruction mentioned above, and stated that he had been able to obtain a new Austrian passport in Teheran because he had sat on the same bench in school with the Austrian Minister there. From other remarks he made it is believed he is contemplating a trip to Ethiopia.

Respectfully yours,


Francis R. Stewart
American Consul.

File No. 811.4.

FRS/mj.

0311507130

F820004-1823

No. 14

AMERICAN LEGATION
RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

1937 NOV 24 AM 11 62
VIENNA, AUSTRIA, NOVEMBER 9, 1937.

SUBJECT:

DIVISION OF
RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT OF PASSPORT OF
HERMANN F. ERBEN.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the renewal application of Hermann F. Erben whose passport No. 248504 was renewed to-day for the full period of its potential validity in accordance with the Department's instruction to the American Consul General in Berlin dated October 22, 1937.

Mr. Erben's passport was endorsed as directed "Not valid for travel in China" and he was warned that if he persisted in using his passport contrary to the stipulations contained therein, the Department would probably refuse him further passport facilities. It is believed, however, that he may proceed to that country as he was in Spain last summer in spite of the endorsement to the contrary.

For the Department's information it may be added that in 1936 an order of expulsion was issued

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130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

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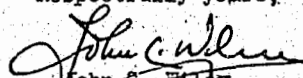
- 2 -

issued by the Austrian authorities against Mr. Erben. The reasons given were unlawful possession of fire-arms and of small quantities of narcotics which he asserts were for medical use only. He states that he is at present staying in Austria on a temporary permit valid up to November 21, 1937. He also exhibited a large assortment of passport photographs stating that, since he has trouble wherever he goes, he is obliged to have extra passport photographs immediately available. When asked how he travelled in Spain without a passport, he stated that as a doctor invited by the Spanish Government he did not need any travel document in that country. It is believed, however, that he has in addition to his American passport some other travel document, possibly from another country, which he uses when necessary.

Mr. Erben's passport was also amended to-day and another photograph attached thereto as he is now clean-shaven and his appearance considerably altered.

A copy of this despatch has been sent to the American Consulate General in Berlin for its information.

Respectfully yours,


John C. Wiley
American Consul General

✓
Enclosures:
Passport renewal application.
Passport amendment application.

File No. 130.8
JHL/ow

00115087000

F820 004-1825

Deutsche Gesandtschaft

Wien, am 27. Januar 1936.

Herrn

Marinsarzt Dr. med. Hermann F. E r b e n M.D.

W i e n I I I . ,

Arenbergg. 19

Zum Zwecke der Vorlage bei der Paßstelle der Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika wird Ihnen hiermit bestätigt, daß Sie von Amtsgericht Berlin-Charlottenburg 1, Tegelerweg 17-20 zu einem Termin auf den 26. März 1936 vorgeladen sind und daß Ihr Erscheinen dort notwendig ist.



For the purpose of presentation at the passport division of the U.S.A. we formally herewith communicate to you that you will be required to appear before the Court Berlin - Charlottenburg I. Tegelerweg 17-20 in person on 26th of March 1936 and that your presence is necessary.

0315087030



B e s t ä t i g u n g .

In der Minlaufstelle des Bundesministeriums für Justiz
wurde am heutigen Tage ein Gnaden- Gesuch für
Dr. Hermann F. E r b e n überreicht.

Dauer der Erledigung ca. 3 Monate.

Wien, am . . . 16. Jänner . . . 1936.

Einlaufstelle
des
Bundesministeriums für Justiz.
Wien, I., Stubenring 1.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely of an official, is written over the typed text of the ministry's address.

11.1.36

To whom it may concern:

At the entrance office of the ministry of Justice has been received today a application for Dr. Hermann F. Cohen.

Duration of time of learning will be approximately within 3 months hence.

Vienne, 16. January 1936.

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